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Quadros Joins Castro

THERE IS A LITTLE good news from Latin America, but more that is bad. The defection of two of Fidel Castro's diplomats in Mexico City indicates that Castro's campaign to suppress the Roman Catholic church will alienate many Cubans who have hoped heretofore that he might presently end his movement deeper and deeper into communism.

Second Secretary Antonio Montane of the Cuban embassy in Mexico City and his wife, Cuban Consul Hilda Portela, said it was the Castro war on religion that finally decided them to quit and ask for political asylum in Mexico. And they warned Latin America that the Mexico City Cuban embassy has been turned into a base for communist spies.

THE AMERICAN CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE agency should have known this, and maybe it did. In any case, the CIA knows it now, and should be able to make some use of the information.

The bad news—really bad—is the diplomatic note to the United States from leftish President Janio Quadros of Brazil, in which he takes his place in Castro's corner. The note says Brazil will oppose any kind of intervention by the United States in Cuba. And it says Quadros does not regard Cuba as a member of the communist bloc, altho Castro says that's what it is.

EVER SINCE HIS ELECTION, Quadros has been talking like a pro-Communist. Now he is talking like a Communist. The United States is preparing to send him millions of American tax dollars to be spent in preventing a communist revolution in northeast Brazil.

But how can the United States government know now that Quadros won't use the money to promote a communist revolution rather than to prevent one? The aid money should be held up until the question is looked into. Meanwhile, America's chances to unite Latin America against the communist takeover in Cuba to have vanished.